

Message Text

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61

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O 032240Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8466

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 2492

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, BR, PLOS, PFOR

SUBJECT: SHRIMP BOAT SEIZURES

REF: BRASILIA 2361

1. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE EMBASSY BY RADM HANSON, CHIEF, NAVY SECTION, USDEL JBUSMC, ADMIRAL GROJEAN OF CNO AND USDEL IADB TELEPHONED TO HANSON TO SAY THE FOLLOWING:

A. HE (GROJEAN) WAS VERY WORRIED ABOUT STATE DEPT INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO SHRIMP BOAT SEIZURES. THE USHNAVY IS CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING TO SELL SOME DESTROYERS TO THE BRAZILIAN NAVY AND BELIEVES VERY STRONGLY THAT THE SHRIMP BOAT INCIDENTS SHOULD BE PLAYED DOWN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. THE STATE DEPT, HOWEVER, DOES NOT SEEM TO BE IMTERESTED IN BEING COOPERATIVE.

B. GROJEAN ASKED HANSON TO CALL THE EMBASSY TO COMMUNICATE "THE US NAVY'S FEELINGS" THAT THE ISSUE SHOULD BE PLAYED DOWN.

C. GROJEAN HAD TOLD THE BRAZILIAN NAVAL ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON THAT HE WAS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO

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AVOID A CUT-OFF OF MILITARY SALES.

2. I HAVE GIVEN HANSON STRICT INSTRUCTIONS TO STAY CLEAR OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE SEIZURES WITH BRAZILIAN NAVY INTER-LOCUTORS PENDING A DEFINITION OF THE US POSITION.

3. I AM, OF COURSE, DISTURBED BY GROJEAN'S GRATUITOUS AND TOTALLY IRREGULAR ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE EMBASSY, BUT I AM EVEN MORE CONCERNED ABOUT HIS RAISING THE MATTER WITH THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY.

4. PLEASE ADVISE IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THE SEIZURES BY ELEMENTS OF THE USG WITH GOB REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON OR GENEVA. AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, THE EMBASSY HAS NOT TAKEN UP THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SEIZURES WITH GOB OFFICIALS HERE, PENDING FURTHER ADVICE FROM THE DEPT.

CRIMMINS

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NNN

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Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
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